

Union Calendar No. 396

83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. J. RES. 96

[Report No. 1049]

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 24, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

JULY 30, 1953

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

To strengthen the foreign relations of the United States by  
establishing a Commission on Governmental Use of Inter-  
national Telecommunications.

Whereas the overseas information program as carried on through  
the media of telecommunications is of continuing and increas-  
ing importance in carrying out and supporting the foreign  
policies of the United States; and

Whereas in his State of the Union message, February 2, 1953,  
the President asserted the necessity "to make more effective  
all activities related to international information": Therefore  
be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That there is hereby established a commission to be known
- 4 as the Commission on Governmental Use of International

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1 Telecommunications (in this Act referred to as the "Com-  
2 mission").

3 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

4 SEC. 2. NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commis-  
5 sion shall be composed of nine members as follows:

6 (1) Five appointed by the President of the United  
7 States, of whom at least one shall be appointed from  
8 the telecommunications industry and at least one from  
9 the field of education and of whom not more than three  
10 shall be from the same political party;

11 (2) Two appointed from the Senate by the Presi-  
12 dent of the Senate of whom not more than one shall be  
13 from the same political party; and

14 (3) Two appointed from the House of Represent-  
15 atives by the Speaker of the House of Representatives  
16 of whom not more than one shall be from the same  
17 political party.

18 ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION

19 SEC. 3. The Commission shall choose its Chairman and  
20 Vice Chairman from among its members and shall estab-  
21 lish its own procedure.

22 QUORUM

23 SEC. 4. Five members of the Commission shall consti-  
24 tute a quorum.

1     COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

2     SEC. 5. (a) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—Members of  
3 Congress who are members of the Commission shall serve  
4 without compensation in addition to that received for their  
5 services as Members of Congress; but without regard to any  
6 other provision of law they shall be reimbursed for travel,  
7 subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them  
8 in the performance of the duties vested in the Commission  
9 and reasonable advances may be made to them for such  
10 purposes.

11     (b) MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Any  
12 members of the Commission who may be in the executive  
13 branch of the Government shall receive the compensation  
14 which he would receive if he were not a member of the  
15 Commission, but without regard to any other provision of  
16 law they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence and other  
17 necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of  
18 the duties vested in the Commission and reasonable advances  
19 may be made to them for such purposes.

20     (c) MEMBERS FROM PRIVATE LIFE.—The members  
21 from private life shall receive not to exceed \$75 per diem  
22 when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the  
23 Commission, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and

1 other necessary expenses incurred by them in the perform-  
2 ance of such duties.

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4 STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

5 SEC. 6. The Commission shall have power to appoint  
6 a Secretary General at a salary of not to exceed \$15,000  
7 per annum, and an Assistant Secretary General at a salary  
8 of not to exceed \$12,500 per annum, and such other per-  
9 sonnel in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as  
10 amended, or to obtain assistance from Government agencies  
11 on a reimbursable basis. The Commission is further author-  
12 ized to employ experts and consultants for temporary and  
13 intermittent personal services, but at rates not to exceed  
14 \$75 per diem for each individual. The Commission is  
15 authorized without regard to any other provision of law to  
16 reimburse employees, experts, and consultants for travel,  
17 subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them  
18 in the performance of their official duties and to make  
19 reasonable advances to such persons for such purposes.

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21 EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION

22 SEC. 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated,  
23 out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropri-  
ated, not to exceed \$250,000 to carry out the provisions of  
this Act.

## 1 REPORT—EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION

2 SEC. 8. (a) REPORT.—On or before December 31,  
3 1954, the Commission shall make a report of its findings and  
4 recommendations to the Congress. It may submit such  
5 interim reports as it deems desirable.

6 (b) EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION.—Ninety days  
7 after the submission to the Congress of the report provided  
8 for in subsection (a) of this section 8, the Commission shall  
9 cease to exist.

## 10 DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

11 SEC. 9. The Commission is directed to examine, study,  
12 and report on the objectives, operations, and effectiveness of  
13 our information programs with respect to the prompt de-  
14 velopment of techniques, methods, and programs for greatly  
15 expanded and far more effective operations in this vital area  
16 of foreign policy through the use of foreign telecommuni-  
17 cations.

## 18 POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

19 SEC. 10. (a) The Commission or, on the authorization  
20 of the Commission, any subcommittee or member thereof,  
21 shall have power to hold hearings and sit and act at such  
22 times and places in the United States and abroad, to require  
23 by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses

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1 and the production of such books, papers, and documents,  
2 to administer such oaths, and to take such testimony, as the  
3 Commission or such subcommittee or member may deem  
4 advisable. Subpenas shall be issued under the signature of  
5 the Chairman of the Commission and shall be served by any  
6 person designated by him.

7 (b) The Commission may authorize the Chairman or  
8 the Vice Chairman to make the expenditures herein author-  
9 ized and such other expenditures as the Commission may  
10 deem advisable: *Provided, however,* That when the Com-  
11 mission ceases its activities it shall submit to the Appropri-  
12 ations Committee of the Senate and the House of Repre-  
13 sentatives a statement of its fiscal transactions properly  
14 audited by the Comptroller General of the United States.

15 (c) The Commission is authorized to secure from any  
16 department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the  
17 Government any information it deems necessary to carry  
18 out its functions under this Act; and each such department,  
19 agency, and instrumentality is authorized and directed to  
20 furnish such information to the Commission, upon request  
21 made by the Chairman or by the Vice Chairman when  
22 acting as Chairman.

Passed the Senate July 23 (legislative day, July 6),  
1953.

Attest:

J. MARK TRICE,

*Secretary.*

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1st Session

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